

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.312
USSN 09/869,142

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A process for producing carboxylic acid, comprising converting at least one cyano group of a nitrile compound into a carboxyl group using the microorganism of claim 8.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously presented) The process for producing carboxylic acid as claimed in claim 1, wherein said microorganism is a mutant strain of *Rhodococcus* sp. ATCC39484.
4. (Previously presented) The process for producing carboxylic acid as claimed in claim 3, wherein said microorganism is *Rhodococcus* sp. SD826 (FERM BP-7305).
5. (Previously presented) The process for producing carboxylic acid as claimed in claim 1, wherein the nitrile compound is a polynitrile compound having a plurality of cyano groups in the molecule and the carboxylic acid is a cyano carboxylic acid.